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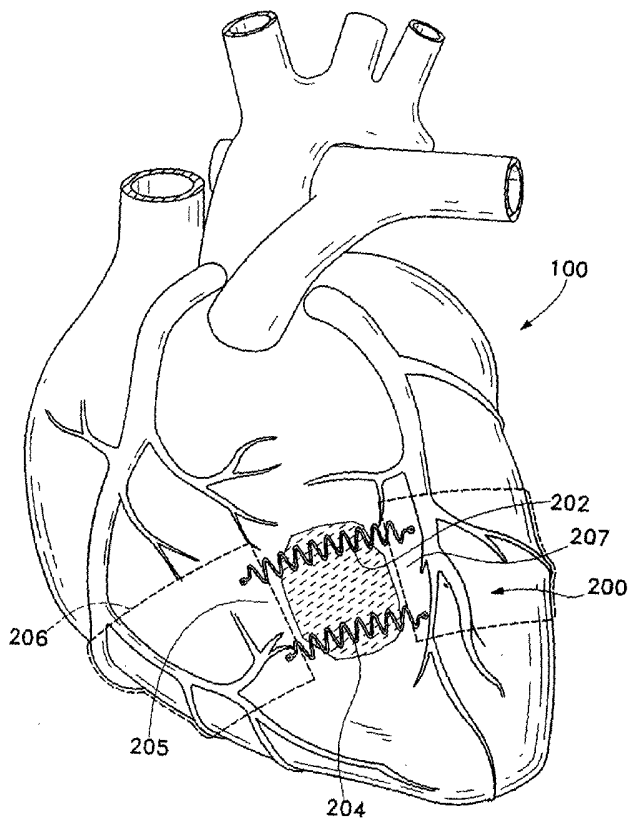
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(54) Title: VENTRICULAR INFARCT ASSIST DEVICE AND METHODS FOR USING IT



(57) Abstract: Devices for support and reforming myocardial tissue in the region of and across an infarct. The devices (100) provide tension across the infarct in varying degrees by attachment of the device to the myocardium at sites adjacent the infarct. A support-providing component across the infarct (204), between the heart attachment sites, provides support to the myocardial wall and support across the infarct. Optionally, includes a time-delay element that variously may allow the device to be introduced onto the myocardial surface and to change the support of the support element.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US02/30654**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : A61B 17/12

US CL : 600/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/16-18, 37; 623/3

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,045,497 A (Schweich, Jr. et al.) 04 April 2000. See entire document.	1-3, 7-11, 23-27, 33-38, 42-45, 49
X	US 6,183,411 B1 (Mortier et al.) 06 February 2001, see entire document.	1-12, 14, 23-27, 33, 35, 37, 38, 42, 44, 45 and 49

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
 See patent family annex.

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"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

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